

City of Seattle Boards & Commissions
Mayor's Office
Annual Report
Due February 25, 2008

Board/Commission: Seattle Human Rights Commission

Completed by: Rosalinda Hoskins

Mission:

MISSION: Promote Human Rights for residents of Seattle and facilitate the prevention and elimination of unjust discrimination.

VISION: A community in which diverse populations achieve harmony and acceptance.

Membership description:

The membership of the 16 member Commission is diverse in both racial and ethnic makeup as well as the skills and talents that each person brings to the Commission.

Board/ Commission Priorities:

1	Homelessness Task Force: To work in support of State Representative Miloscia's initiative to develop funding for the 10 year plan and provide 2,500 units of housing to end homelessness in Seattle
2	Public Safety Task Force: To research and analyze the current condition of community relations with the Police Department and identify best practices for the development of recommendations and proposals for change
3	Disability Task Force: To improve conditions for people with disabilities in the City of Seattle.
4	Education Task Force: To have a positive impact on equality in education in the Seattle Public Schools.
5	Appeals Committee: To continue to work on the proposed change to the ordinance regarding the role of the Appeals Committee in reviewing cases, conducting hearings and making recommendation to SOCR.

Top Accomplishments in 2007:

1	Homelessness Task Force: Ordinance passed that added protection for people who are homeless under Seattle's Malicious Harassment law.
2	Public Safety Task Force: Met with Sam Pailca, Director of the Office of Professional Accountability, regarding the operations of OPA and presented the concerns of the SHRC.
3	Disability Task Force: Addressed concerns regarding the impact of the new King County Voting Plan on people with disabilities.
4	Education Task Force: Consulted with SPS staff and other stakeholders on the progress and status of the Racial Disproportionality initiative of SPS that was launched in 2005. Met with the new Superintendent of Schools to discuss her vision for SPS and to express SHRC concerns.
5	Appeals Committee: Participated in meetings with SOCR to discuss the role of the Appeals Committee and to strategize ways of working together and improvements to the current system.

Top 3-5 Projects and Priorities for 2008:

1	Homelessness Task Force: To continue to inform and educate the members of the SHRC and the community on homelessness in Seattle and bring proposals for action to the members for voting.
2	Public Safety Task Force: To continue to research and analyze the current condition of community relations with the Police Department and identify best practices for the development of recommendations and proposals for change.
3	Disability Task Force: Developing a proposed public opinion survey to determine the readiness of identified sectors of the community to accommodate people with disabilities.
4	Education Task Force: To continue to have a positive impact on equality in education in the Seattle Public Schools.
5	Appeals Committee: To continue to work with SOCR staff in providing excellent service to the citizens of Seattle.

Successes to report? (attach sheet if necessary):
(Please see attachment)

Challenges? (attach sheet if necessary):

The Commission experienced a great deal of expected and unexpected turnover in 2007. Another challenge was the unexpected loss of staff support due to Marta Idowu's auto accident in October.

Gender/Racial Diversity of Current Membership

Men	Women	Vacant	Minority	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Native Amer.	Middle East	Caucasian
7	8	1	12	0	7	2	1	2	4

Geographic Diversity of Current Membership

Please visit: <http://www2.cityofseattle.net/neighborhoods/planning/default.htm> for an interactive map.

<i>City Sector</i>	<i># of members living in that Sector</i>
Northwest	0
Northeast	3
West	3
East	2
Southwest	4
Southeast	3

Members holding offices (if this does not apply to your board/commission, write "N/A"):

<i>Name</i>	<i>Office (i.e. Chair, Vice-Chair)</i>
Angela N. Tarah	Chair
Michael Fitch	Vice-Chair
Julian Wheeler	Secretary

2007 Appointments/ Reappointments Summary:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Appt. or Reappointment?</i>	<i>Term Ends</i>
Marissa Chavez	Appointment	7/22/09 (C)
Charles Hodges	Appointment	7/22/09 (C)
Michael Fitch	Re-Appointment	7/22/09 (M)
Marvin Stern	Appointment	7/22/09 (M)
Brahmy Poologasingham	Appointment	7/22/08 (M)
Merri Ann Osborne	Appointment	7/22/08 (M)
Lubna Mahadeen	Appointment	7/22/08 (M)
Jay Wellington	Re-Appointment	7/22/09 (C)
Wilberforce O. Agyekum	Appointment	7/22/09 (M)
Amanda Licorish	Appointment	9/9/08 (Get Engaged)

Members who completed/ vacated term in 2007 (and are no longer serving):

<i>Name</i>	<i>Completed or Vacated term?</i>
Kesha Lee	Vacated
Kathy Cox	Vacated
Felipe Mendez	Vacated
Shukri Olow	Completed
Rob Jacobs	Vacated
Gyasi Ross	Vacated
Ahoua Kone'	Completed

2008 Summary of Expected Mayoral Appointments:

<i># Appointments</i>	<i># Re-Appointments</i>	<i># Current Vacancies</i>
0	0	2

Other Notes and Information (attach sheet if necessary):